ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

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www.stpaulsdesperes.org • church@stpaulsdp.org **www.stplutheranschool.org** • school@stpaulsdp.org

Subscribe to our *Weekly Word* e-letter at bit.ly/StP-WeeklyWord

WITNESS

Nov. 1 Worship Attendance • 835

5:00pm worship • 40
8:00am worship • 264
9:30am worship • 150
10:45am worship • 261
Living Stone worship • 120

Online Viewing

Sanctuary: 153 • Living Stone: 57
Approximately 336 total online viewers

CALENDAR

Sunday, November 8
Worship Services
Family Confirmtn. Class, 9:30am, School
Voters' Mtg, Noon, Sanctuary
MomCo After Dark, 6:30pm, Music Room

Monday, November 9
Monday Morning Men's Bible Study, Zoom
LWBS Leaders Mtg., 9am, Conf. Room
LWML Quilting Group, 9am, FH
LWML Mtg./Luncheon, Noon, FH
Social Ministry Mtg., 6pm, Conf. Room
Comfort Dog Mtg. moved to Nov. 16

Tuesday, November 10
Christian Readers Group,7pm, Music Rm.

Wednesday, November 11
Living Way Bible Study, 9am
Choir Rehearsal, 7pm

Thursday, November 12
Living Way Bible Study, 7pm, Conf. Rm.

Friday, November 13
Veterans Day Assembly, 8:30am, School
Bulletin Assembly, 9am, LL4
Blood Drive, 10am, Ballas Lobby

Saturday, November 14
Worship Service, 5pm

Sunday, November 15
Worship Services
New Members Received, 10:45am, Sanc.

SUNDAY CLASSES

Bible Study Hour • 9:30am
Gospel of Mark • Saints Hall
Simulcast live on 850AM and KFUO.org

Foundation • Fellowship Hall
Topical, discussion-based study

Sunday School • School Rooms
• Little Lambs: 205 • Preschool: LL2
• K/1st: LL7 • 2nd/3rd: 106 • 4th/5th: 104
• 6th-8th: 210 • 9th-12th: Youth Room

GIVING

Annual offering budget	$3,375,996
Budget year-to-date (18 weeks)	1,168,614
Received year-to-date	1,058,887
Difference actual/budget	-109,727
Weekly amount needed	68,150
Received last week	65,895

Debt Reduction

Current debt	$9,410,150
Gifts received July 2026 to date	$50,819

MINISTRY EXPANSION CAMPAIGN TOTAL COMMITMENTS

$14,585,612 • Gifts received to date: $10,176,747

MISSIONS

November Mission of the Month: Rev. Tyler McMiller serves as an LCMS missionary in Italy, providing Word and Sacrament ministry, Bible study, catechism instruction, and pastoral support to Lutherans across the country. He also mentors men preparing for Lutheran pastoral ministry and helps geographically scattered believers establish house churches.

EMPLOYMENT

Now Hiring: After-School SPLASH

Our school's SPLASH program (short for St. Paul's Lutheran After School & Homework club) is growing. Part-time positions are available from 3-6pm, mainly on Mondays and Fridays, with the chance of more days/hours as needed. If you or someone you know (age 18 and up) is interested in this school-year position, please contact director Jenn Barton at jbarton@stpaulsdp.org.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Find all community news and area LCMS event listings in our Weekly Word e-letter.

THANK YOU

NEW: Brat and Pie Fry Thank You

Thank you to all of the volunteers, pie bakers, and staff who helped give our 2026 Brat and Pie Fry a very memorable return to such a special day! Special thanks go out to Chef Brad Krueger, as well as Jenna Foley, Joanna Hoeltge, Lynn Linden, Nancy Ohlemeyer, Julie Schowe, and Aunnee Trampe, who helped prepare and lead the event. We look forward to coming back Reformation Day 2027!

HOW TO SUBMIT NEWS

News Due by 9am Wednesdays • Activity leaders are invited to submit news with our easy submission form at *bit.ly/StP-Submit*, or look for the "Submit News" buttons at the top of our website's *News* page and *Weekly Word* e-letter.

THE GOOD NEWS

NOVEMBER 8, 2026

TODAY

Voters' Meeting

Sun., Nov. 8 • Noon • The congregational voters' meeting will include election of church officers (VP, treasurer, missions chair, and school board chair), a treasurer's report, building report, cemetery report, and an LCMS constitutional amendment discussion. An email outlining the meeting, including documents and agenda, was sent to congregation members last week: read at *conta.cc/47NVj4H*.

THE WEEK AHEAD: NOV. 9 - 15

LWML Meeting & Speaker

Mon., Nov. 9 • Noon • FH

All women are invited to join us as we will hear a speaker from Phil's Friends share their vision and mission to assist individuals impacted by cancer. We will begin with a soup lunch; feel free to bring crackers, cheese, muffins, or cookies.

Christian Readers Group

Tues., Nov. 10 • 7pm • Music Room

Join us in November as we read Patti Callihan's *Once Upon a Wardrobe*. Led by Rev. Dr. Kent Burreson, the group reads across a variety of genres, exploring Christian themes and how literature informs Christian faith and life.



Kindergarten Kickoff

Thurs., Nov. 12 • 5:30 or 6:15pm • RSVP at bit.ly/StP-K27

Do you have a child who will be eligible for kindergarten next school year? RSVP now for the St. Paul's Lutheran School 2027-28 kindergarten kickoff.

What to expect: Learn all about kindergarten and life at St. Paul's from teachers, principal, pastors, and others. • Tour the K-8 school building, including the brand new gym, Meisch Music Suite, and Saints Hall — with surprises along the way for your rising kindergartner! • Take advantage of having the first opportunity to enroll in our half- and full-day kindergarten programs. • Enjoy fellowship and refreshments.

Blood Drive + Gift Card

Fri., Nov. 13 • 10am-2pm • Ballas Lobby

Donate and receive a $10 Amazon gift card by email. Help save a life by donating blood at our American Red Cross blood drive. Choose your appointment time at *rcblood.org/2Qn3GQE* or via the link on our website's *News* page.

Veterans Day Assembly

Friday, Nov. 13 • 8:30am • Gym • Read more on next page.

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP

Thanksgiving Eve • Wed., Nov. 25 • 7pm
Thanksgiving Day • Thurs., Nov. 26 • 10am



WHAT'S NEW?

NEWS JUST ADDED

1. LWML girls' night out • Nov. 16
2. Youth night chaperones • Nov. 18
3. Card-making night • Nov. 19
4. Thanksgiving worship • Nov. 25 & 26
5. Christmas decorating • Nov. 27
6. Ronald McDonald House • Nov. 27
7. Breakfast in Bethlehem • Dec. 5
8. Brat & Pie Fry thanks (back page)
9. Staff member farewell
10. MO Scholars tax credits
11. Advent: Save the dates

REMINDERS

- Sign up for Kindergarten Kickoff held Nov. 12; spaces limited

LARGE-PRINT

Find the large-print *Good News* included inside our large-print worship folders (please see an usher)

CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES

Return by Sunday, Nov. 15

Send a Christmas gift of hope around the world! Operation Christmas Child collects and distributes shoeboxes filled with gifts, supplies, and the message of the Gospel.

Complimentary empty shoeboxes are available in the narthex. Full details and links on our website's *News* page.

Ideas include: Toy, doll, soccer ball/pump, toy truck, stuffed animal, musical instrument, markers, crayons, toothbrush, puzzle, jump rope, stickers, yo-yo, Frisbee, binoculars, hat, and more.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVENT

Breakfast in Bethlehem

Sat., Dec. 5 • 8:30-10:30am

Flyer at bit.ly/StP-BBflyer26



Join us for a morning in celebration of the first Christmas during this beloved annual St. Paul's tradition. Savor a delicious hot breakfast and festive music announcing the birth of the Christ child. A variety of family activities will be featured, including a nativity photo zone, crafts, cookie walk, Christmas bingo, strolling Christmas carolers and costumed characters, a service project, and Gabriel's Gift Shop, where children can buy gifts for their family!

- $15 per person. Registrations and payments will be secured on a first-come, first-served basis until we reach capacity of 375 total guests; no walk-ins.
- Register at *bit.ly/StP-BB26* or through the button on our website's *News* page.
- Many volunteers make for a successful event! Please consider lending a helping hand at *bit.ly/StP-BBhelp26.*

Gift Donations for Gabriel's Gift Shop

Collecting Nov. 1 - Dec. 4



We fill Gabriel's Gift Shop — part of the Breakfast in Bethlehem morning — with donations from the congregation and are now collecting new and like-new gifts for parents, grandparents, and other loved ones. The shop is a favorite stop for children, where all treasures are sold for $1. (Please note that child-age gifts are not needed.)

- Suggestions include re-gifted items, jewelry, purses, books, home decor, Christmas items, trinkets, ornaments, books, sport items, golf balls, ties, mugs, picture frames, games, soaps and bath items, or personalized items that say "Mom," "Dad," "Grandma," etc.
- Find drop-off bins in the church, school, and ECC lobbies.



Friday, Nov. 13 • 8:30am • School Gym

St. Paul's school students and staff look forward to honoring ALL veterans of our congregation and church community ... retired or active duty, and from all service branches and eras! We cordially invite you to be our special guests at our Veterans Day Assembly celebration; you need not be a veteran to attend. (No arrivals before 8am please.)

- Questions: Amy Rudsinski, arudsinski@stpaulsdp.org.

CALL UPDATE

Our call committee holds weekly meetings this month as St. Paul's evaluates associate pastor candidate information.

Call Committee Process

1. Form and approve call committee
2. Solicit candidate names from congregation
3. MO District review; more names added
4. **Committee evaluate candidate info**
5. Virtual interviews with candidates
6. Candidate on-site visits at St. Paul's
7. Committee's final recommendations and voters' meeting



SERVICE & SUPPORT

NEW: Serving at Ronald McDonald House

Fri., Nov. 27 • 4:30pm

When families of seriously ill children stay at Ronald McDonald House in Des Peres, our members show care by cooking a home-style meal for these guests visiting our community. Come cook with us in the RMH kitchen: Sign up at *bit.ly/StP-RMH.*



NEW: God's Blessings

St. Paul's extends our heartfelt thanks to colleague Kathy Stoddard for her exemplary and faithful ministry among us since 2022, as she wraps up her Family Ministry Team service to begin her next chapter; please join us in wishing her every blessing.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Music at St. Paul's: Vespers for Christ the King

Sun., Nov. 22 • 3pm



Music at St. Paul's cordially invites you to Cantata Vespers for Christ the King with the American Kantorei chorus and orchestra. The service of Evening Prayer will feature music from Cantatas 35, 39, and 96, by Johann Sebastian Bach. The American Kantorei, under the directorship of Dr. Maurice Boyer, specializes in the performance of J. S. Bach's sacred choral works in the original German, accompanied by orchestra. The event is complimentary, with a freewill offering, and is open to the public.

NEW: LWML Girls' Night Out

Mon., Nov. 16 • 6pm • Offsite

Before the holidays are in full swing, take a break from your busy schedule and join Lutheran Women in Mission for an evening of fellowship. Enjoy appetizers, snacks, and sweet treats while socializing with your St. Paul's sisters. Go to *bit.ly/LWMLgno* for location, additional details, and to sign up.

NEW: Monthly Card-Making Night

Thurs., Nov. 19 • 6-9pm • Music Room

Enjoy an evening of creativity and conversation, crafting three simply beautiful cards ready to send to family and friends. All supplies provided in $15/person materials fee. Register by 5pm on Nov. 16 so materials can be prepped: *bit.ly/StP-Cardmaking.*

NEW: Christmas Decorating & Dinner



Fri., Nov. 27 • 4:30-6:30pm

Help make St. Paul's merry and bright! Catch the Christmas spirit as we put up wreaths, lights, Christmas trees, and ornaments — including our special Chrismon ornaments. We'll decorate the sanctuary, our new Living Stone space in Saints Hall, and east and west church lobbies. Youth, adults, and families are all invited for this annual tradition with a complimentary light dinner. Sign-up at *bit.ly/47yWcfh.*

ADVENT: SAVE THE DATES

- Hanging of the Green • Advent Starts • *Sun., Nov. 29*
- Midweek Advent Services
  Wed., Dec. 2 & 9 • 11am; 6pm with dinner prior
- School Christmas Program (3rd-4th) • *Tues., Dec. 8 • 6:30pm*
- School Christmas Program (5th-8th) • *Wed., Dec 16 • 11am & 6pm*
- Breakfast in Bethlehem & Gabriel's Gift Shop • *Sat., Dec. 5 • 8:30am*
- Women's Advent by Candlelight • *Sun., Dec. 6 • 6:30pm*
- Music at St. Paul's • Service of Lessons & Carols
  Sat., Dec. 12 (5pm worship service) & Sun., Dec. 13 at 4pm
- School Christmas Program (K-2nd) • *Living Stone • Dec. 13 • 10:45am*
- Christmas Caroling to In-Home Members • *Sat., Dec. 19 • Noon*

SCHOOL & YOUTH NEWS

NEW: MOScholars Tax Credit

You can make a difference by directing your Missouri state tax dollars to support families and receive a tax credit in return. Read more at mo.lcms.org/tax-credit

Since 2022, the Missouri District has awarded over 2,000 scholarships totaling more than $13 million, helping students attend 60 Lutheran schools across Missouri. Many of these children are experiencing their first year in a Lutheran school — an opportunity made possible through MOScholars. Currently, St. Paul's Lutheran School has several learners receiving these funds to cover their tuition costs. Now is the time to reserve your tax credit for 2026 contributions. Early action ensures that your dollars directly support students and schools in the year ahead. A big thank you to all taxpayers who participated in 2025!



School Auction Tickets on Sale Now

Sat., Feb. 6, 2027 • 6pm
DoubleTree Westport

Tickets for the St. Paul's Lutheran School auction are now on sale! Form your table of 10 for a fun evening of food, fellowship, and fundraising.

Table sponsorships and other donation opportunities are available.

Visit the auction website to learn more at *bit.ly/STPSAUCTION2027.*

NEW: Youth Night Chaperones



Wed., Nov. 18 • 5:30pm-7:30pm

As we look forward to this month's 1st to 8th grade youth event, we first reach out to fill our team of parent chaperones, as we follow a 9:1 youth/adult safety ratio. Parental support helps make our youth nights possible: each chaperone sign-up allows us to open nine more youth slots!

- ***Progress report (as of Nov. 5): Chaperones = 4***
- *Youth and parent volunteer sign-up at bit.ly/StPyouth*